



Photonics

Quantities and Units of Light

Basic concepts

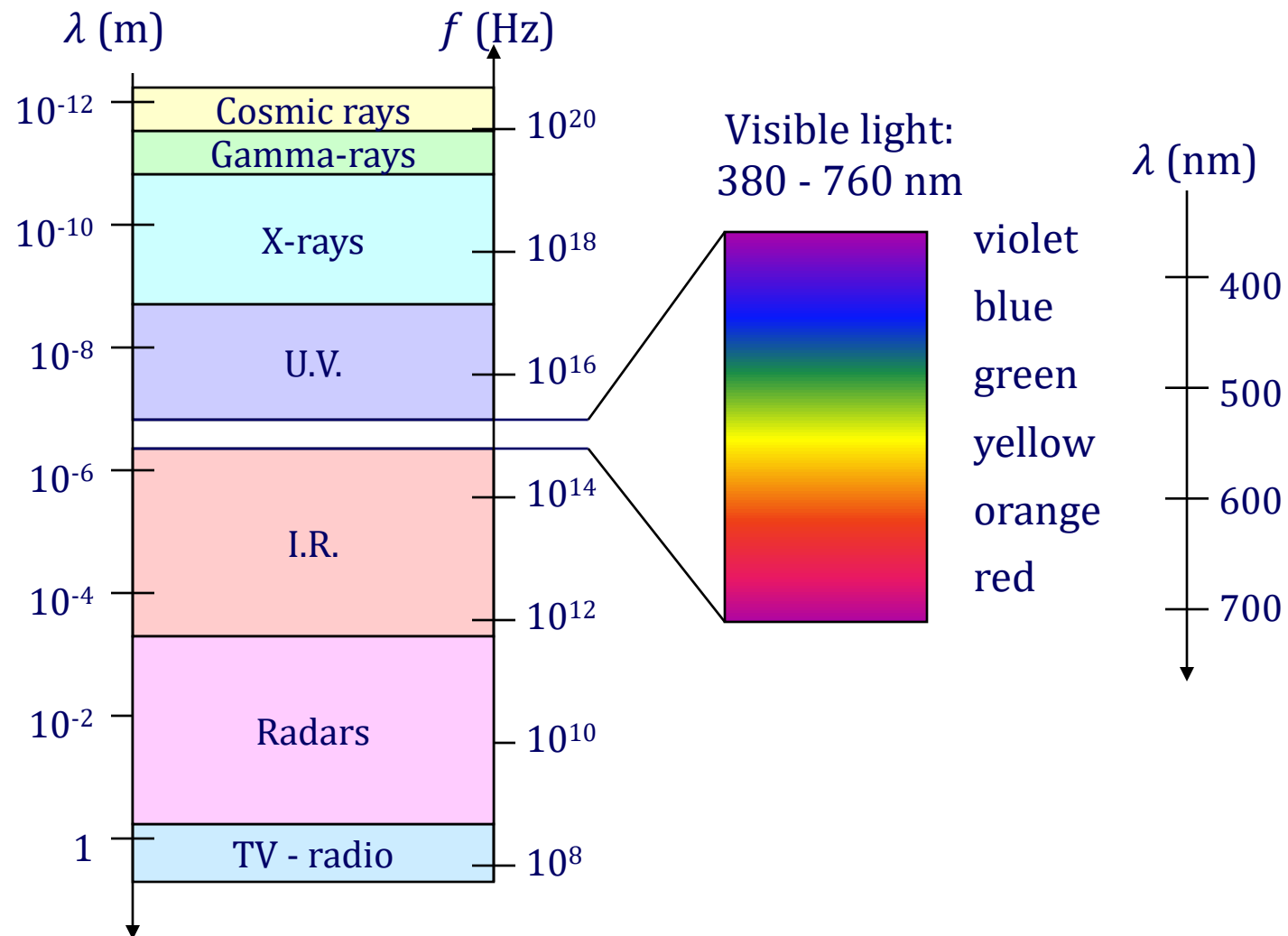
Energetic and photometric quantities

Human eye

Introduction

- Light is an EM-radiation, which is (almost) visible by the human eye:
 - visible light
 - Infrared (IR)
 - Ultraviolet (UV)

Electromagnetic spectrum



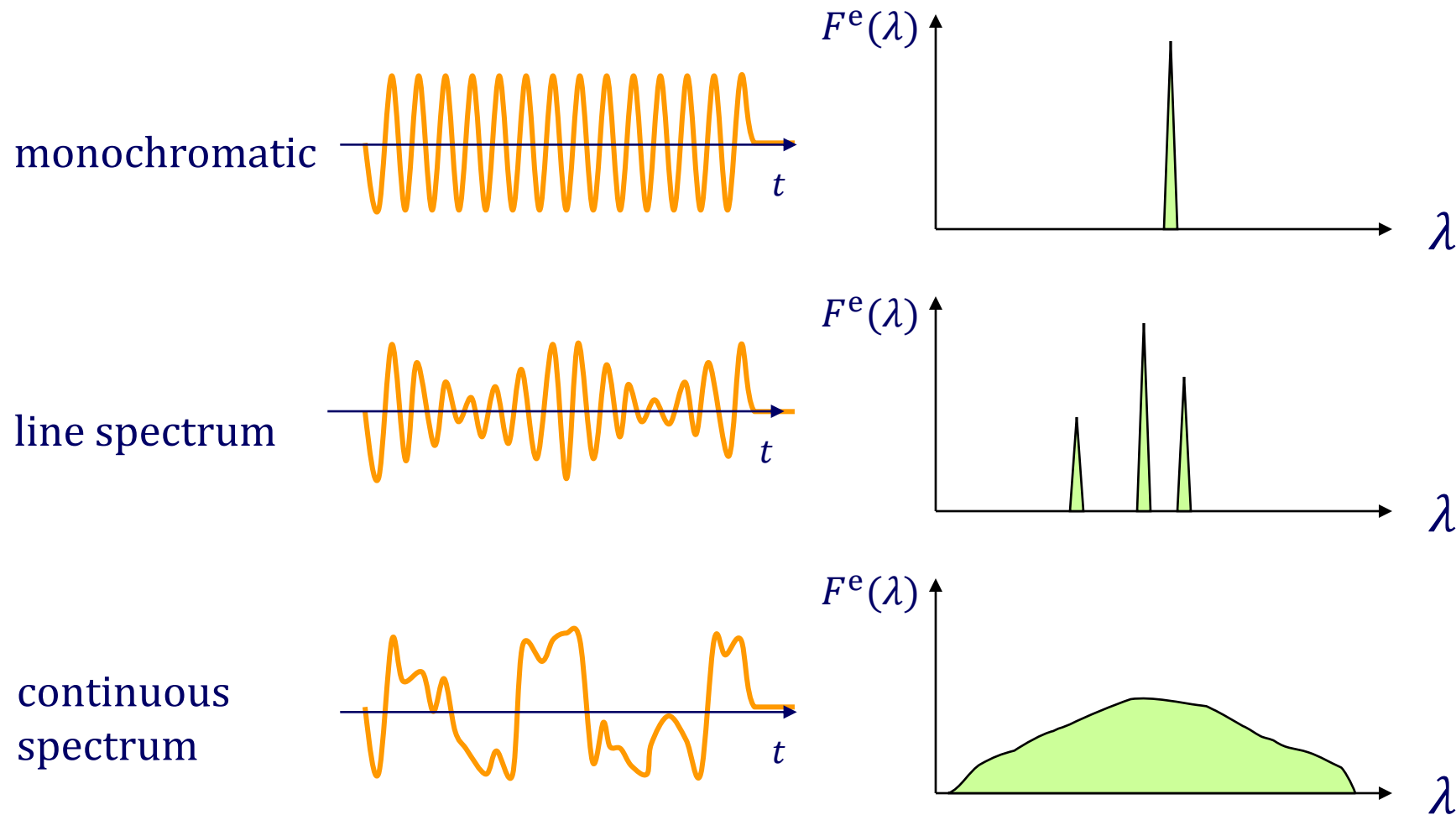
Basic quantities (1)

Quantity	Symbol	Unit	
Frequency	f, ν	THz	
Wavelength	λ	nm	$\lambda = \frac{c}{n \cdot f}$
Refractive index	n	-	
Speed	c/n	km/s	

Basic quantities (2)

Quantity	Symbol	Unit	
Wave number	σ	1/cm	$\sigma = \frac{1}{\lambda}$
Wave number (EM)	k	1/cm	$k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}$
Photon energy	E	eV	$E = h \cdot \nu = h \cdot f$

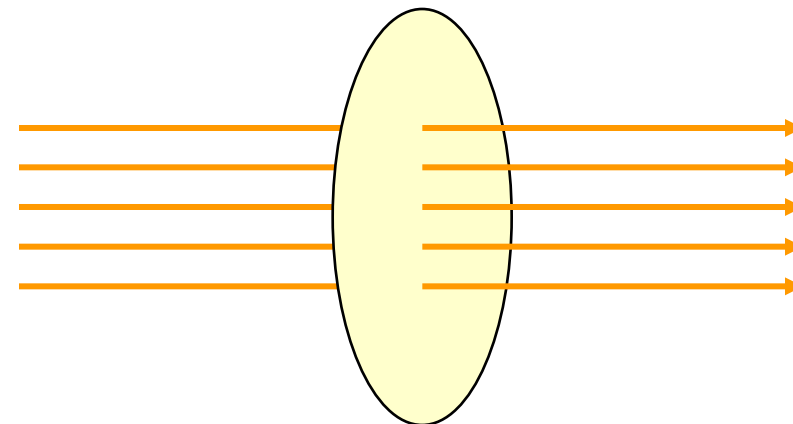
Spectrum of a “light” source



Energetic quantities (1)

- Radiant energy
 - symbol: Q^e
 - unit: Joule
- Radiant Flux
 - Amount of radiation through a surface per time unit
 - symbol: F^e
 - unit: Watt

$$F^e = \frac{dQ^e}{dt}$$

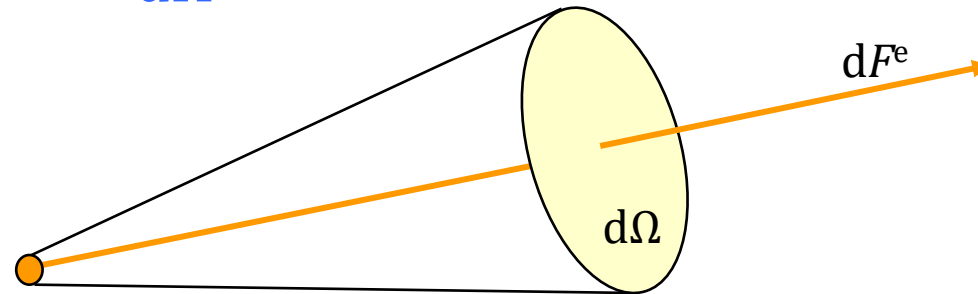


Energetic quantities (2)

- Radiant Intensity

- Radiant flux in a given direction per unit solid angle (for a point source)
- symbol: I^e
- unit: Watt / sr

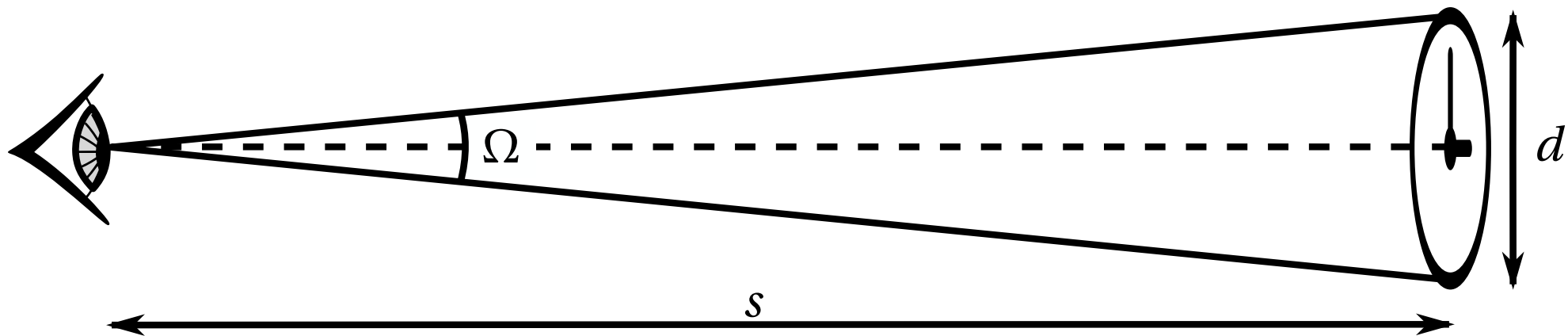
$$I^e = \frac{dF^e}{d\Omega}$$



Exercise

You look straight at a clock on the wall, which is at a distance $s = 3 \text{ m}$. The circular clock has a diameter of $d = 25 \text{ cm}$.

- Calculate the solid angle that corresponds to your view of the clock.



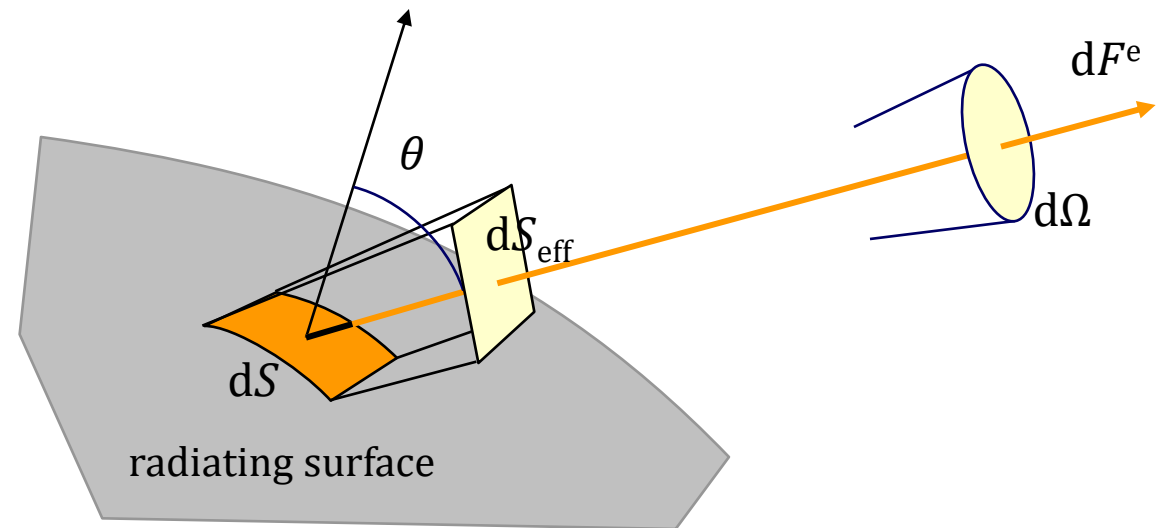
Energetic quantities (3)

● Radiance

- Radiant intensity of a surface around a given point in a given direction per unit of effective area of the surface
- symbol: L^e
- unit: Watt / sr / m²

$$L^e = \frac{dI^e}{dS_{\text{eff}}}$$

$$dS_{\text{eff}} = dS \cos \theta$$

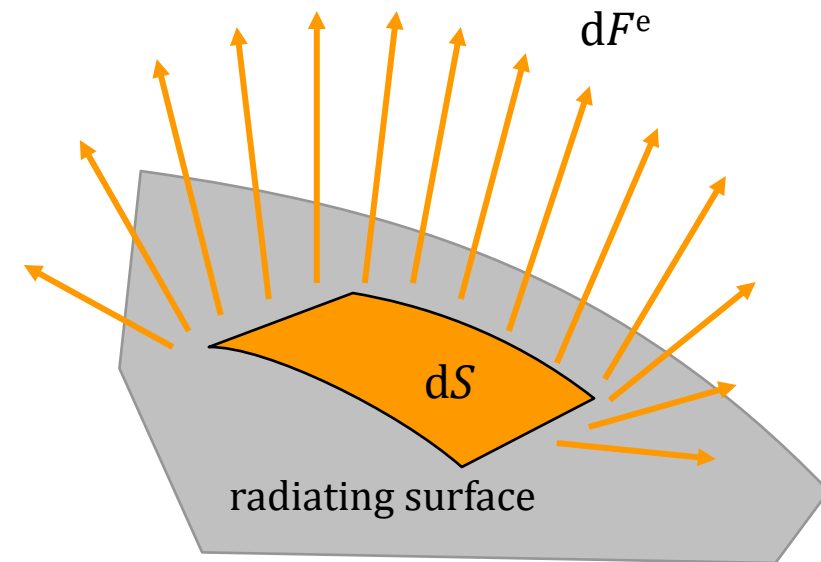


Energetic quantities (4)

- Radiant exitance

- Radiant flux emitted per unit area
- symbol: M^e
- unit: Watt / m²

$$M^e = \frac{dF^e}{dS}$$

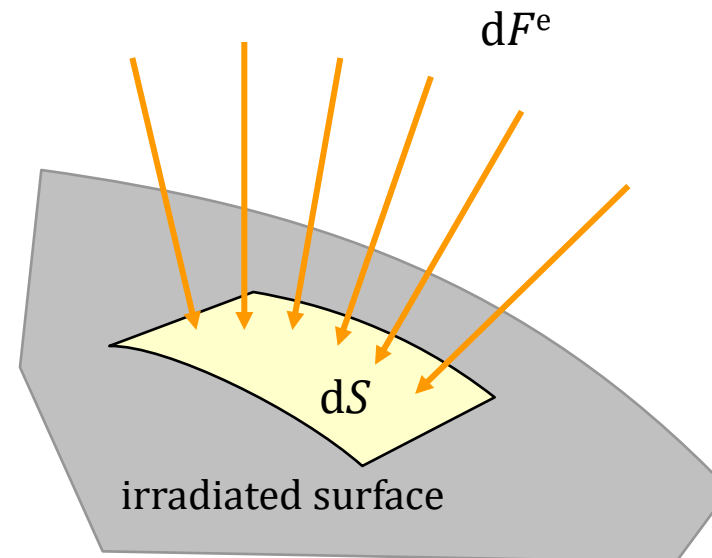


Energetic quantities (5)

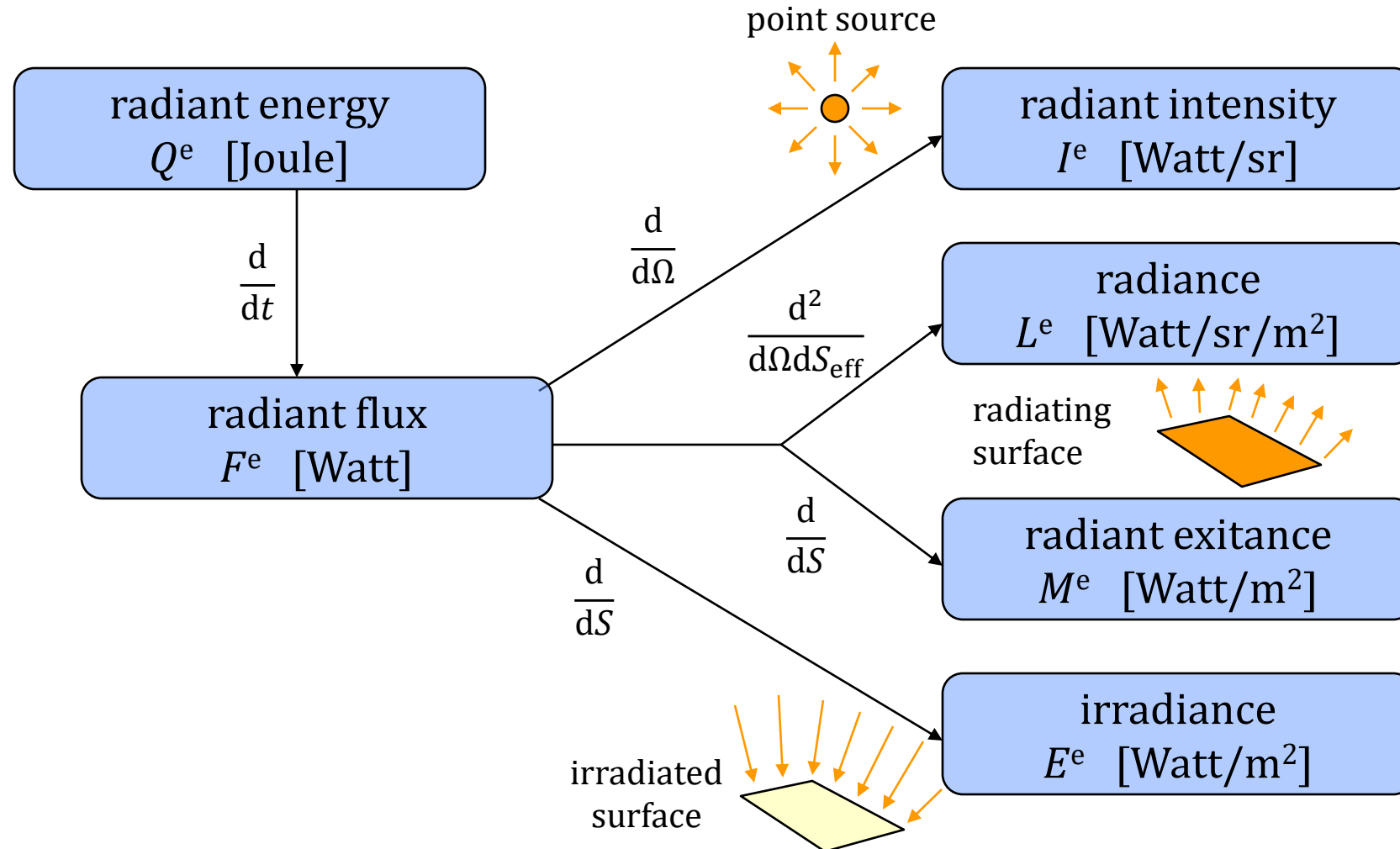
● Irradiance

- Radiant flux received per unit area
- symbol: E^e
- unit: Watt / m²

$$E^e = \frac{dF^e}{dS}$$



Energetic quantities (6)



Spectral density

- Quantity per wavelength interval
 - symbol: subscript S
 - e.g. spectral density of the radiant flux

$$F_S^e(\lambda) = \frac{dF^e}{d\lambda}$$

Human eye

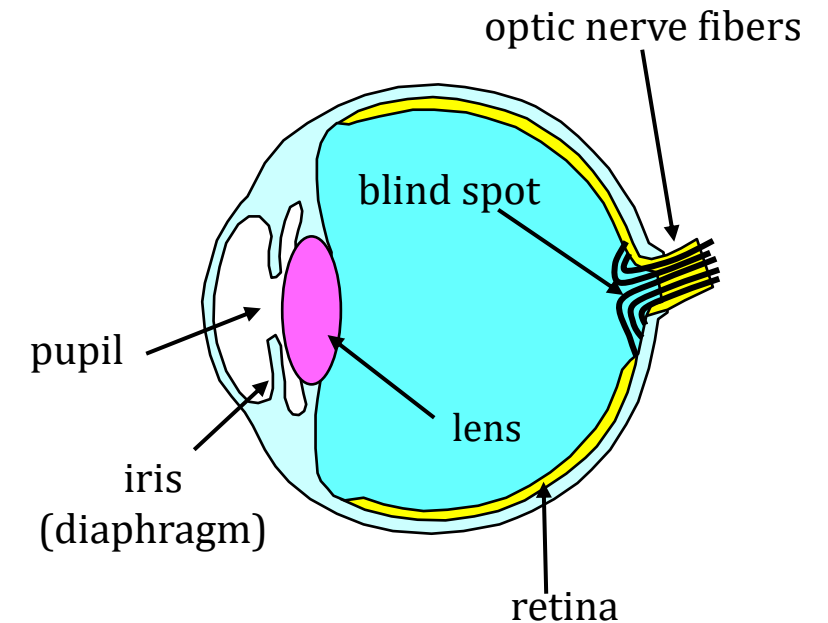
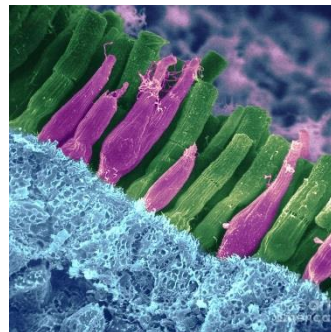
- 2 types of light sensitive neurons in the retina

- cones

- 3 types (red, green, blue)
 - good at normal illumination
= photopic sight, color vision

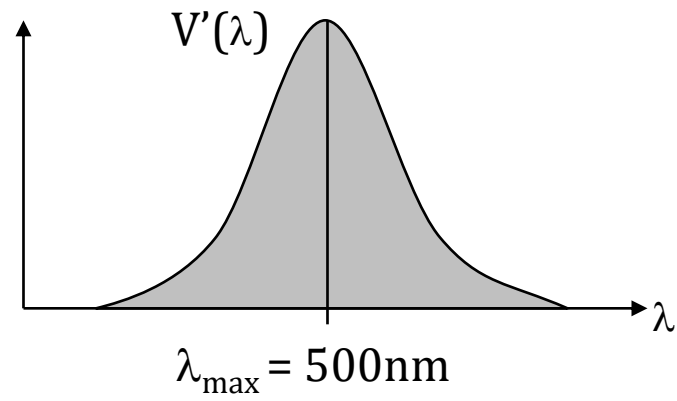
- rods

- 1 type
 - important at low light intensity
= scotopic sight, night vision

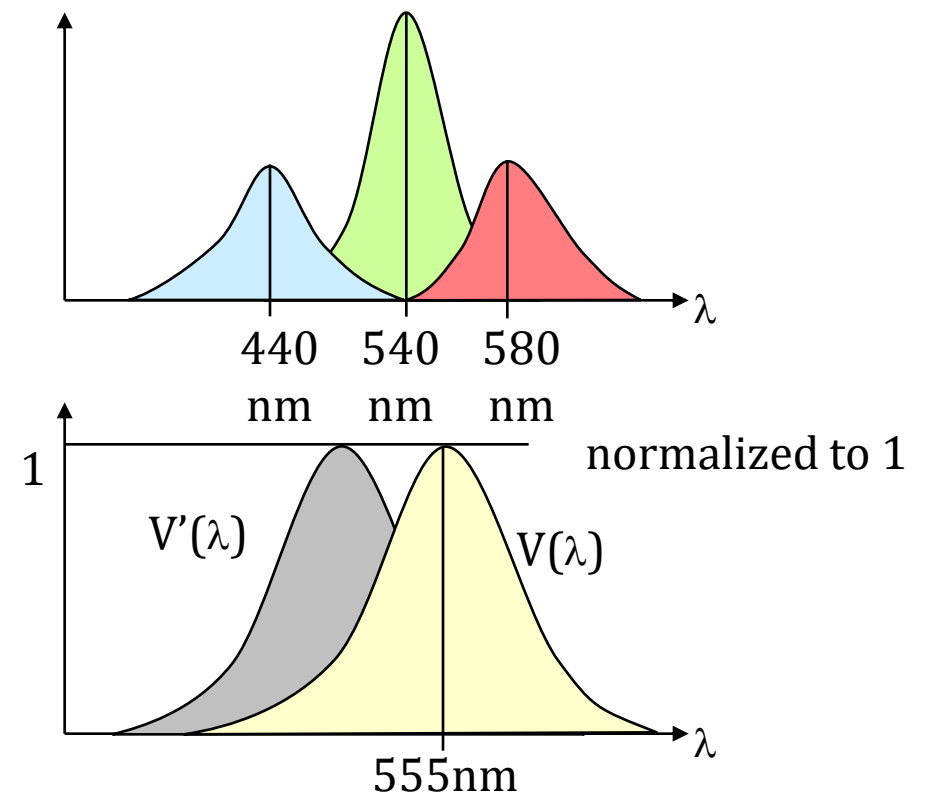


Eye sensitivity

- rods
(scotopic sight)

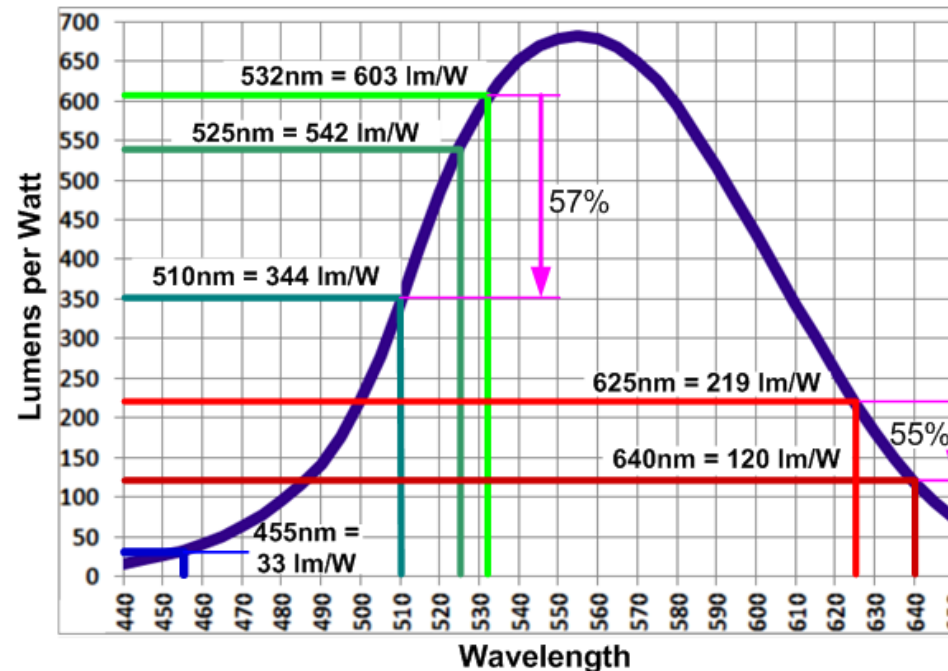


- cones
(photopic sight)



Photometric quantities (1)

- Photometric:
take into account the response of the human eye
- Luminous flux
 - symbol: F
 - unit: lumen [lm]



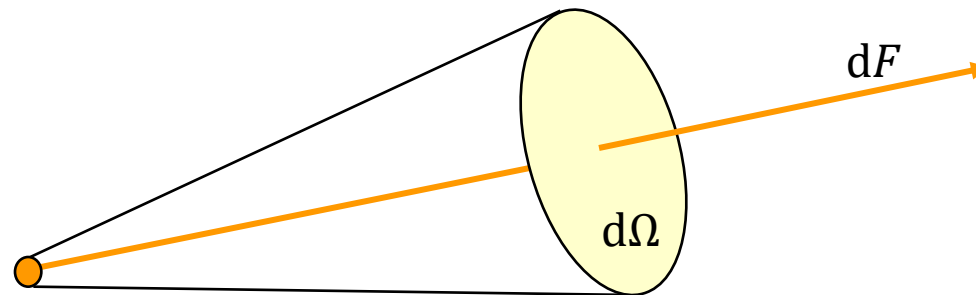
$$F = K \int F_S^e \cdot V(\lambda) d\lambda \quad \text{with } K = 683 \text{ lumen/Watt}$$

Photometric quantities (2)

- Luminous intensity

- Luminous flux in a given direction per unit solid angle (for a point source)
- symbol: I
- unit: candela = lumen / sr, [cd] or [lm/sr]

$$I = \frac{dF}{d\Omega}$$



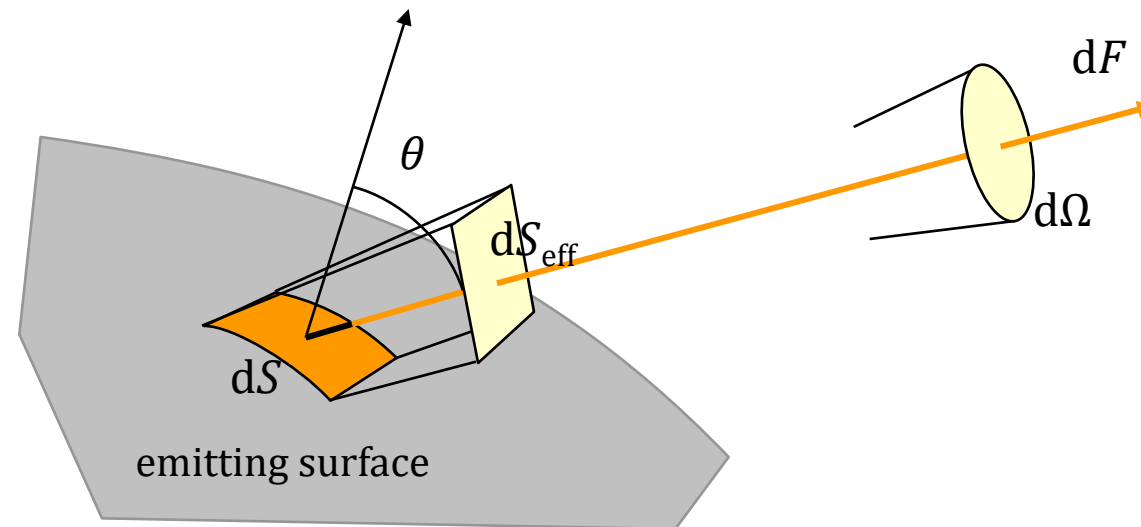
Photometric quantities (3)

- Luminance; brightness

- luminous intensity of a surface around a given point in a given direction per unit of effective area of the surface
- symbol: L
- unit: candela / m², [cd/m²] (or nit)

$$L = \frac{dI}{dS_{\text{eff}}}$$

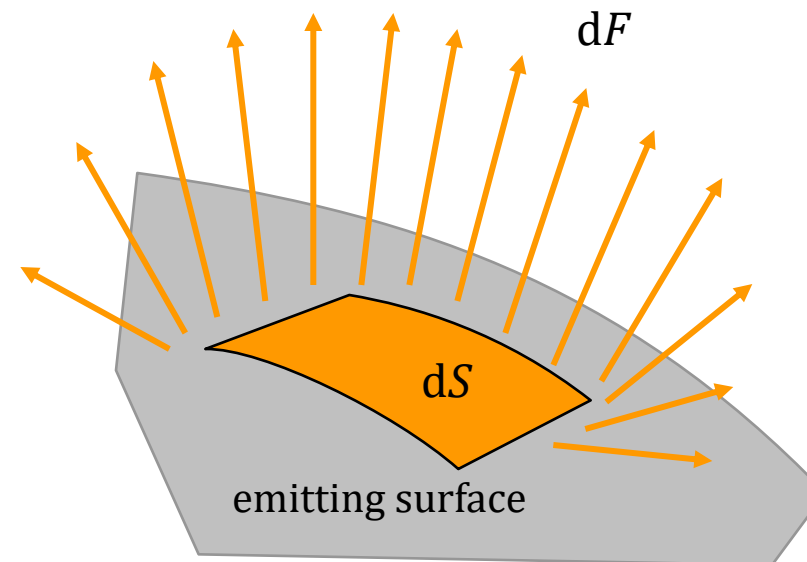
$$dS_{\text{eff}} = dS \cos \theta$$



Photometric quantities (4)

- Luminous exitance
 - Luminous flux emitted per unit area
 - symbol: M
 - unit: lumen / m²

$$M = \frac{dF}{dS}$$

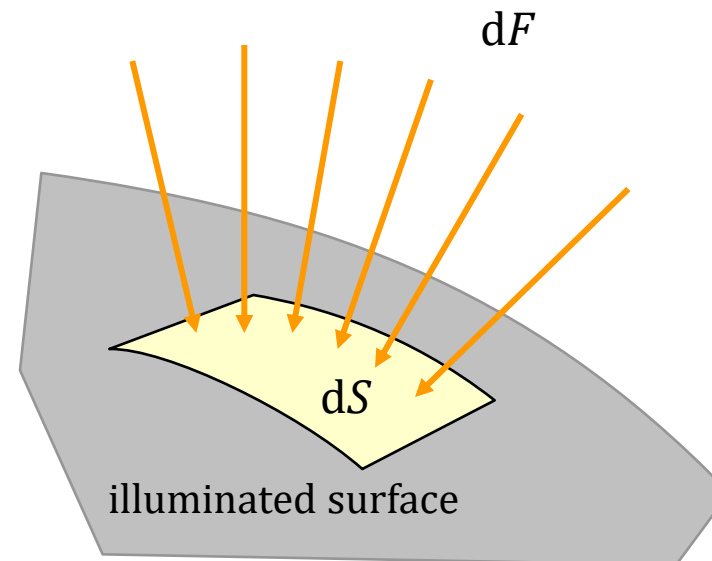


Photometric quantities (5)

● Illuminance

- Luminous flux received per unit area
- symbol: E
- unit: lux = lumen / m²

$$E = \frac{dF}{dS}$$



Energetic vs. photometric

- Energetic

- Radiant flux F^e

$$F = K \int F_S^e(\lambda) \cdot V(\lambda) d\lambda$$

with $K = 683$ lumen/Watt

- Radiant intensity I^e

- Radiance L^e

- Radiant exitance M^e

- Irradiance E^e

- Photometric

- Luminous flux F

- Luminous intensity I

- Luminance L

- Luminous exitance M

- Illuminance E



Calculation of the illuminance

● Point source

- solid angle

$$d\Omega = \frac{dS \cos\theta}{D^2}$$

- luminous flux dF on dS

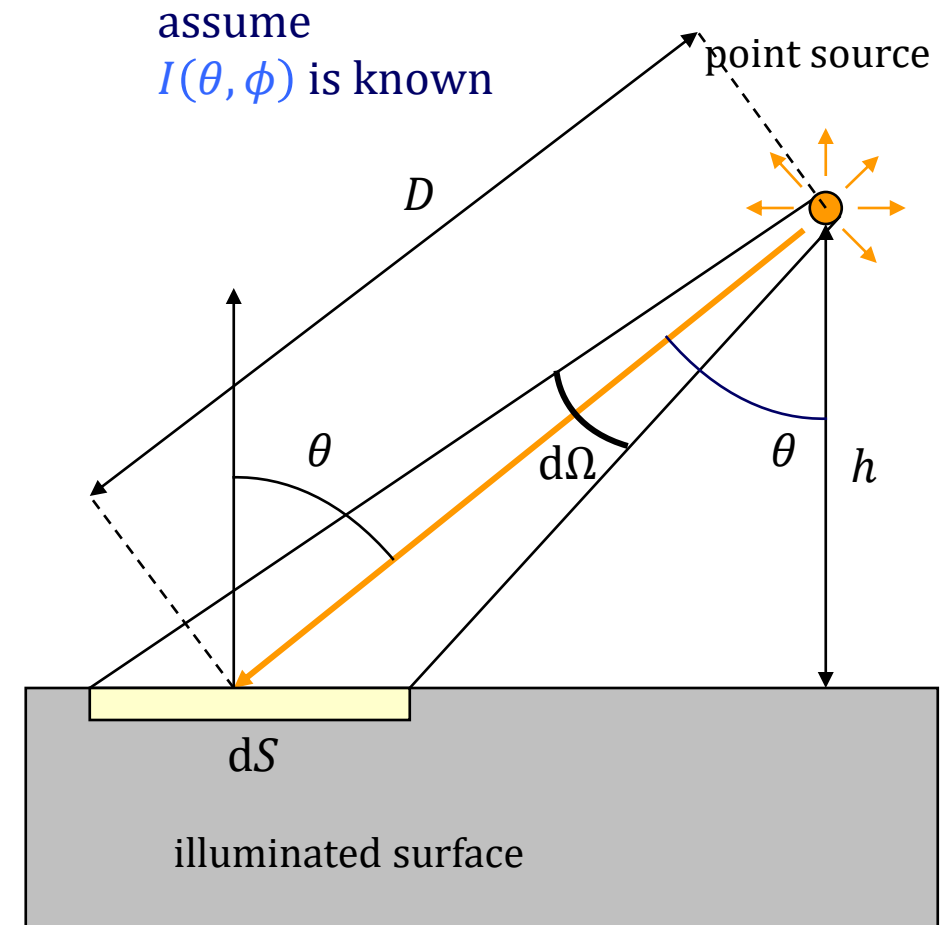
$$dF = I(\theta, \phi) \frac{dS \cos\theta}{D^2}$$

- Illuminance E
of the surface

$$E = \frac{dF}{dS} = \frac{I \cos\theta}{D^2} = \frac{I \cos^3\theta}{h^2}$$

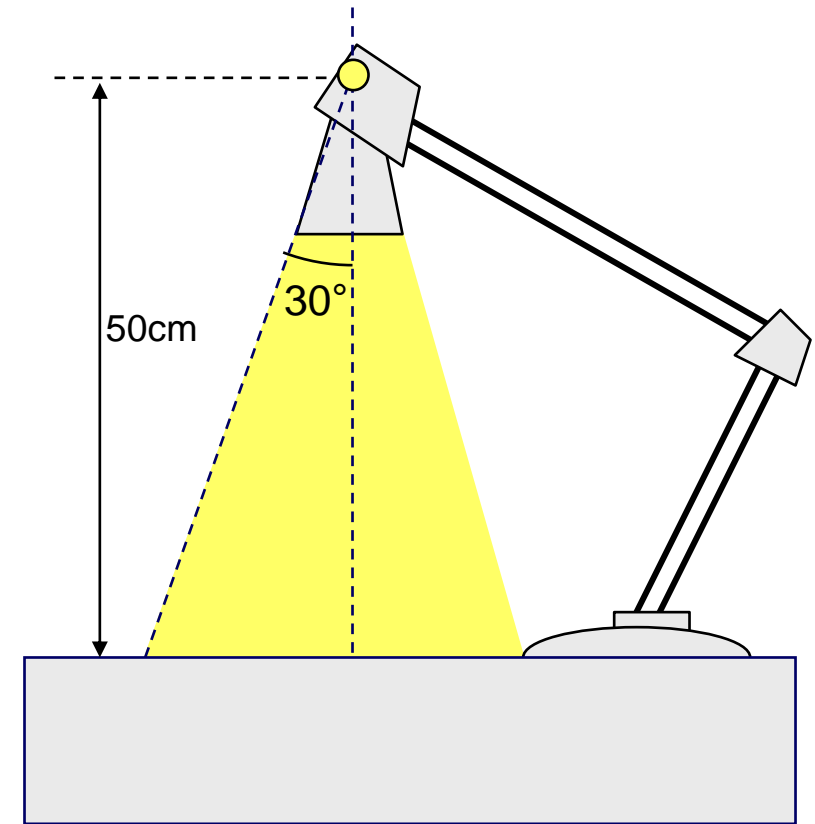
- Perpendicular incidence ($\theta = 0$)

$$E = \frac{I}{h^2}$$



Exercise: desk lamp

- A desk lamp contains a light bulb with an electrical power of **60 Watt**. The conversion efficiency is **15 lumen** per (electric) Watt. Due to the fitting the luminous flux is divided uniformly over a cone with a half opening angle of **30 degrees**. The lamp is **50 cm** above the desk surface.
- Calculate the average illuminance on the desk surface.
- Calculate the illuminance on the desk surface in the center and at the edge of the light cone.



Calculation of the illuminance

- Not a point source

- Luminance L

- Luminous flux dF in $d\Omega$

$$dF = L(\theta, \phi)(dS \cos \theta) d\Omega$$

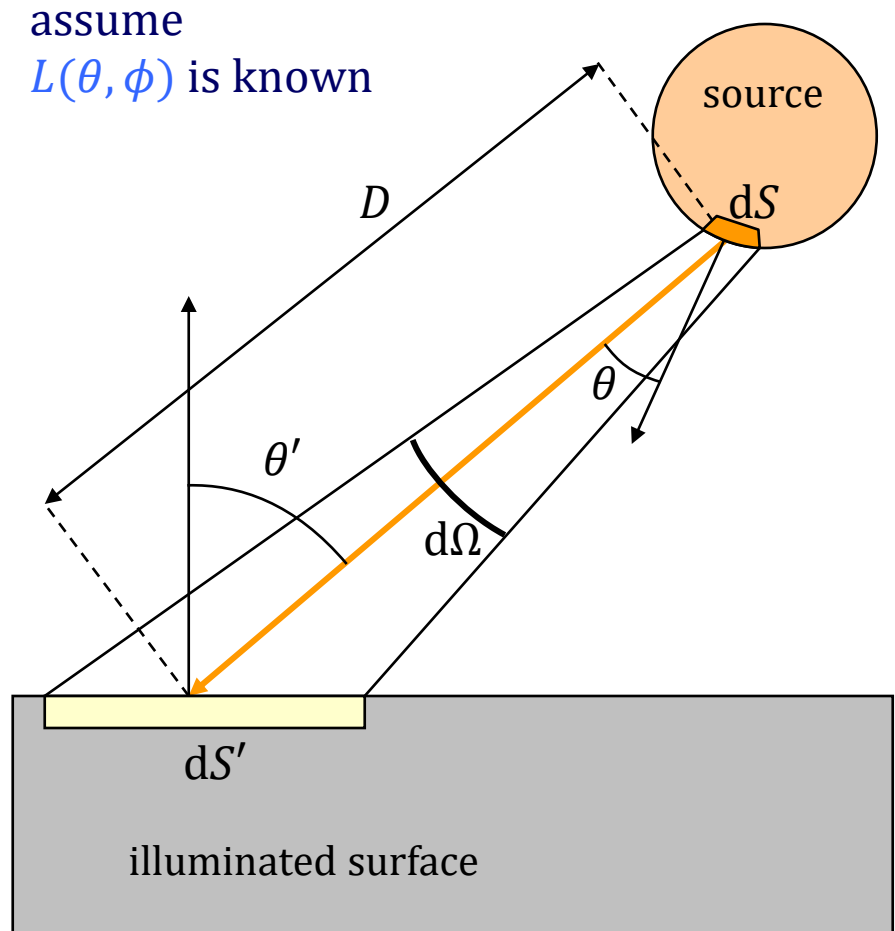
$$d\Omega = \frac{dS' \cos \theta'}{D^2}$$

- Illuminance dE on dS'

$$dE = L \frac{\cos \theta \cos \theta'}{D^2} dS$$

- Total illuminance E

$$E = \iint_{\text{source}} L \frac{\cos \theta \cos \theta'}{D^2} dS$$



Retina illuminance as function of a light source

- Luminous flux from dS to S'

$$dF = L dS_{\text{eff}} d\Omega$$

$$\text{and } d\Omega = \frac{S'}{D^2}, \text{ so } dF = L dS_{\text{eff}} \frac{S'}{D^2}$$

- dS_{eff} is projected on dS''

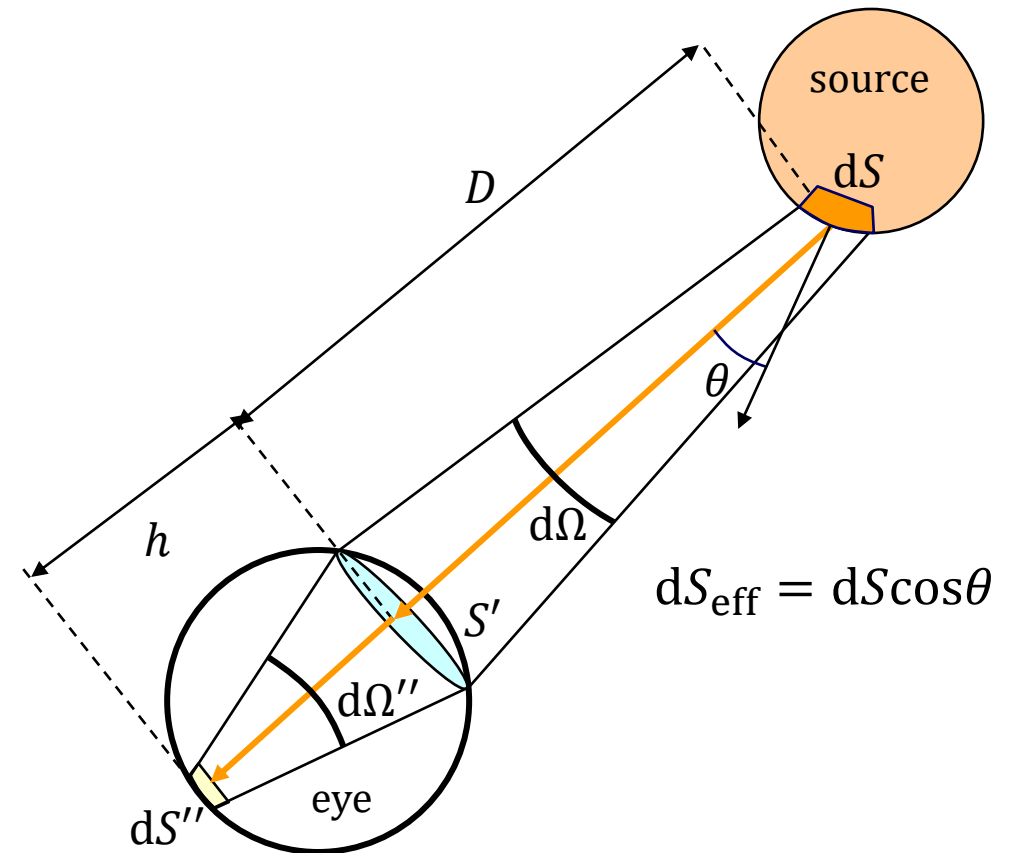
$$\frac{dS''}{dS_{\text{eff}}} = \frac{h^2}{D^2}, \text{ or } \frac{dS_{\text{eff}}}{D^2} = \frac{dS''}{h^2}$$

- Luminous flux to dS''

$$dF = L \frac{dS'' S'}{h^2}$$

- Illuminance at retina

$$E = \frac{dF}{dS''} = L \frac{S'}{h^2} = L d\Omega''$$



Independent of distance D

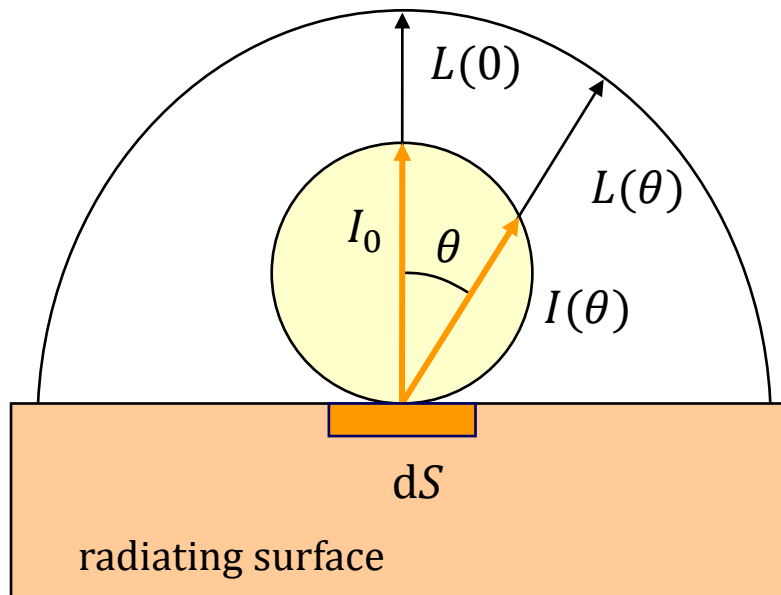
Lambert's law

Lambert surface:

$$L(\theta, \phi) = \text{constant}$$

Examples:

- Many incoherent sources, like the sun, incandescent lamp...
- Rough, diffusely reflecting surfaces



- Luminous intensity of dS

$$dI(\theta) = L \cdot dS_{\text{eff}}(\theta)$$

$$= L \cdot dS \cdot \cos \theta$$

$$= dI_0 \cos \theta$$

- Luminous flux from dS

$$dF = \int dI d\Omega \quad \boxed{d\Omega = \sin \theta \, d\theta \, d\phi}$$

$$= dI_0 \int_0^{\pi/2} \cos \theta \sin \theta \, d\theta \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi$$

$$= \pi dI_0 = \pi L dS$$

- Luminous exitance of the surface

$$M = \frac{dF}{dS} = \pi L$$

Illuminances

- Summer sun 100000 lux
- Winter sun 10000 lux
- Sunrise 500 lux
- Full moon 0.25 lux

- Retina sensitivity 10^{-9} lux
- ISO-400 film sensitivity 10^{-2} lux
(1 s exposure)

Recommended illuminances

- Eye functions optimally from 10000 lux
- Daylight 1000-100000 lux
- Artificial light
 - Offices: 500-1000 lux
 - Very precise work: 1000-5000 lux
 - Living area (local): 500-1000 lux
 - Living area (general): 50-100 lux



Beschermt de oogen van U en Uw gezin!

In ieder middenlicht behoort beslist een Philips' „Bi-Arlita” lamp van ten minste 150 dekalumen. Gaat na, of dit noodzakelijk minimum wel in Uw vertrekken aanwezig is. Speelt geen noodlottig spel met de oogen van U en Uw kinderen!

PHILIPS' „BI-ARLITA”
LAMPEN
GUL met licht - ZUINIG met stroom!

Luminance (brightness)

● Sun	$1.65 \cdot 10^9 \text{ cd/m}^2$
● Moon	$2.5 \cdot 10^3 \text{ cd/m}^2$
● Filament of an incandescent lamp	$7 \cdot 10^6 \text{ cd/m}^2$
● Fluorescent lamp	$8 \cdot 10^3 \text{ cd/m}^2$
● LED	$10^4 - 10^6 \text{ cd/m}^2$
● Laser (1W - green)	10^{15} cd/m^2
● Computer monitor	300 cd/m^2
● White paper (80% reflection - 400 lux)	10^2 cd/m^2
● needed for photopic sight (cones)	$> 1 - 10 \text{ cd/m}^2$
● needed for scotopic sight (rods)	$> 0.01 - 0.1 \text{ cd/m}^2$

Examples

- Projectors
 - light output in lumen
 - www.barco.com
- Lamps
 - luminous intensity in cd
 - www.osram.com
- Monitor / TV
 - brightness in cd/m^2 (nit)
 - tweakers.net